



EPG

Presentation Outline

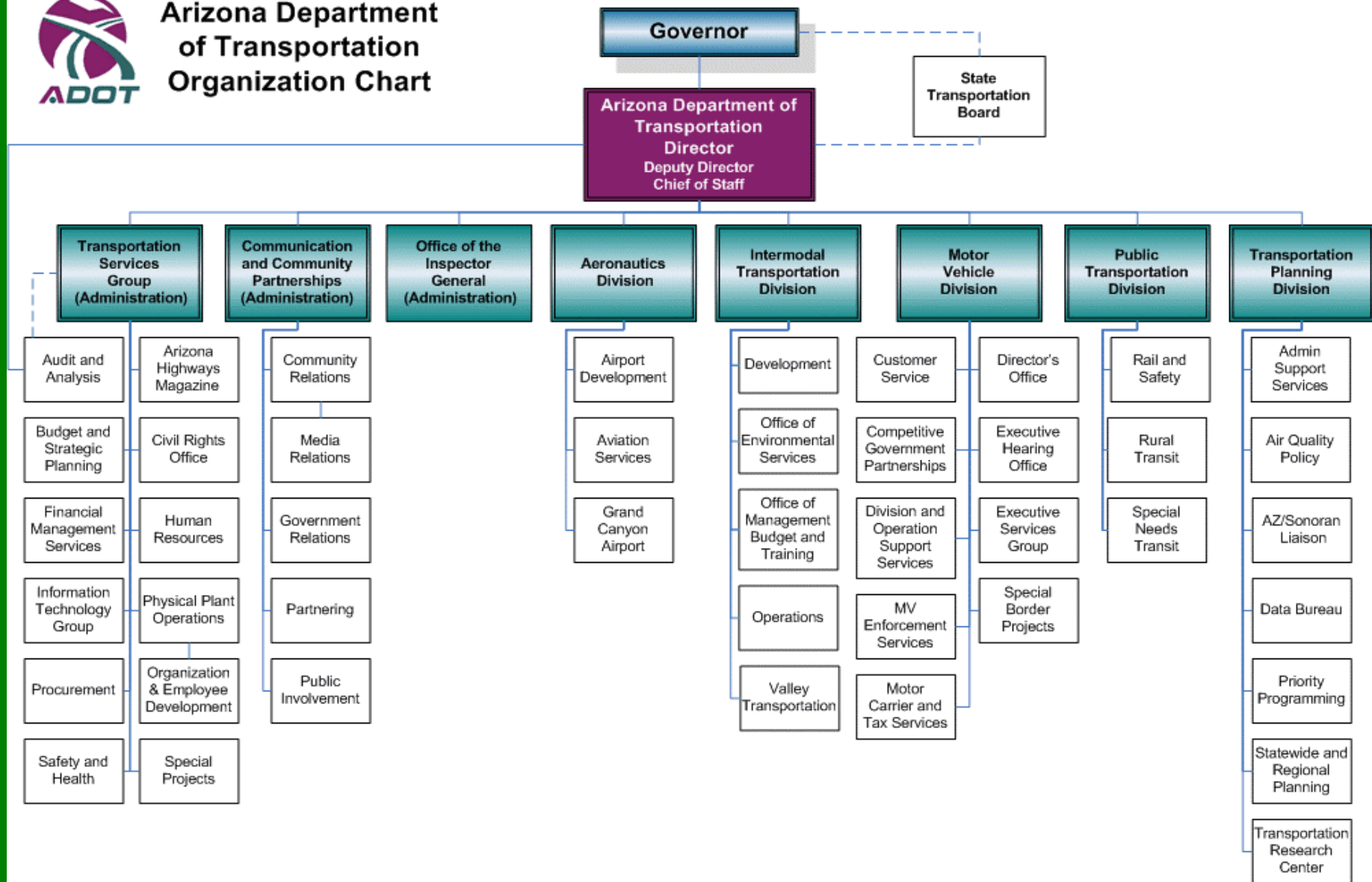
- Where – we fit in ADOT
- Who – we are and what we do
- Why – we do what we do
- What – affects what we do
- How – we do what we do



Where?



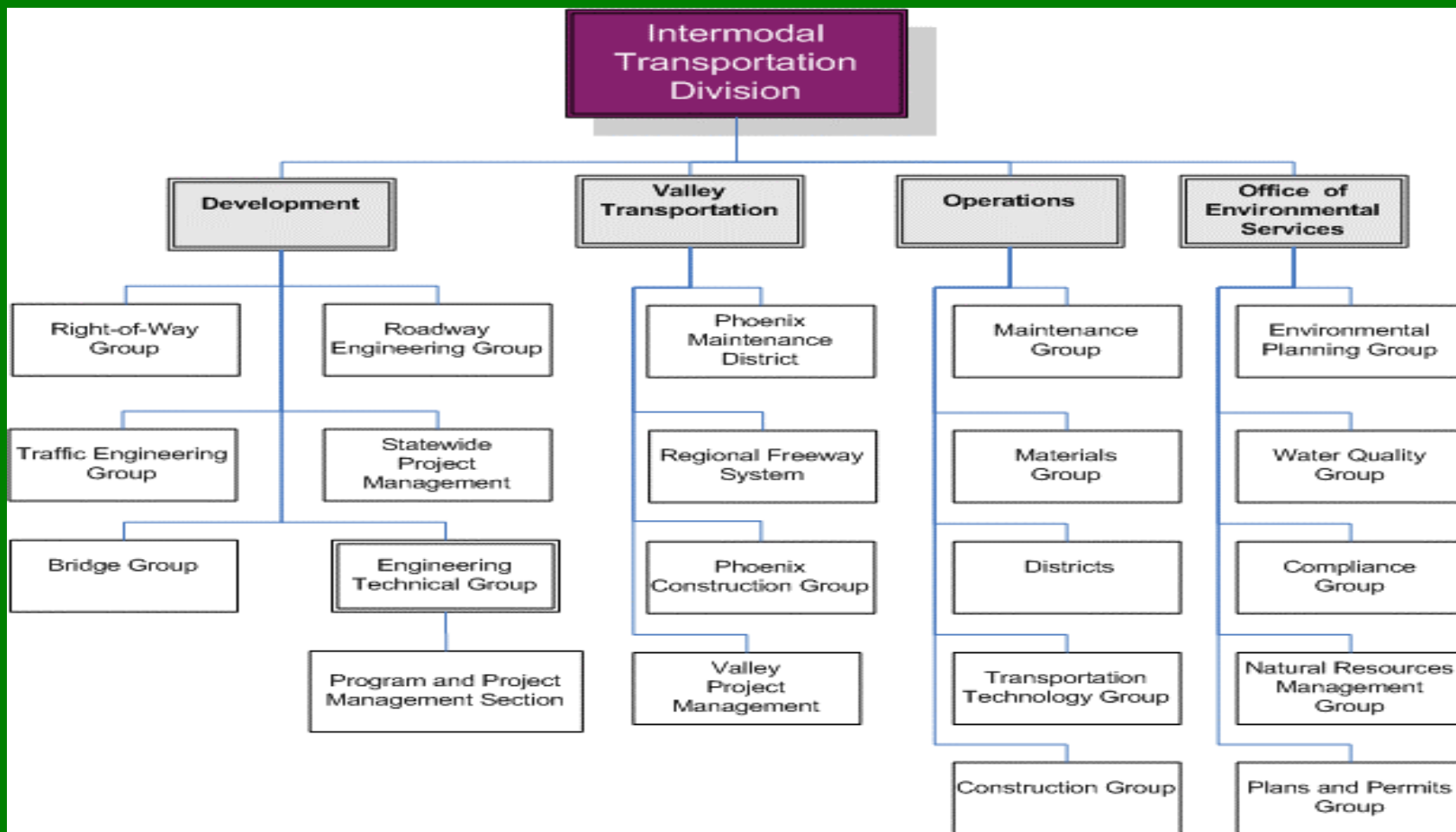
Arizona Department of Transportation Organization Chart



ADOT Mission

To provide products and services for a safe, efficient and cost-effective transportation system that links Arizona to the global economy, promotes economic prosperity and demonstrates **respect for Arizona's environment and quality of life.**

Intermodal Transportation Division



July 1, 2006

Two Sections = One Group

- Environmental Planning Section
- Environmental Technical Section

Environmental Planning Group (EPG)

The Environmental Planning Group provides environmental services for transportation activities through compliance with regulatory requirements, providing the highest level of professional technical support and education to our agency and customers, while building cooperative relationships with other government agencies and the public.



Who?

Our Background?

- Planning
 - Biology
 - Archaeology
 - Engineering
 - Geology
 - Hazardous materials
 - Environment/Ecosystems/Natural Resources
 - Business & Management
 - Bachelors, Masters, PhDs
- Etc., etc...

Who Are We?

- FTEs
- Supplemental service (in-house consultants)
- On call consulting firms
- Phoenix, Flagstaff, Tucson Locations

What Do We Do?

- Everything in the 5 year program is cleared (NEPA) through EPG, as well as...
 - Subprogram projects, such as traffic signals, pavement preservation
 - PreDesign
 - EAs, EISs, CEs, EDs, EOs
- Special studies, e.g., air, 404, noise, hazmat, biology, cultural resources
 - In support of and separate from clearances

Why We Do What We Do?

In the Beginning...There was NEPA

(National Environmental Policy Act of 1969)

to encourage productive and enjoyable harmony
between people and the environment;

promote efforts that will prevent or eliminate
damage to the environment;

AND, it required that Federal agencies employ an
interdisciplinary approach in related decision-
making

Then there was...

Federal Regulations:

Title 23 - Highways, Part 771 :
Environmental Impact and Related
Procedures

*applied NEPA to Federal Highway
Administration Activities*

Lead Agency

- Federal Funded
- State Funded: Federal Nexus

And What Else Do We Do?

- Policy and procedure development/input
- Support outside of ITD – Development
- Maintenance Support
- Training/education
- Assist local governments
- Project tracking/technology applications



What?

What Affects Us...

The Big Picture:

- SAFETEA - LU reauthorization
- Federal agencies
- New regulations/laws/policies
- Environmental advocacy groups
- Legal challenges/courts

Purpose and need, EJ, cumulative effects, 404, T&E, Air Toxics

- Public priority

Middle-sized Picture:

- Stewardship/streamlining
- Preserve and enhance
- Changing the organization/culture
- Context Sensitive Solutions
- Public outreach
- Partnering

Little Picture:

- 155 projects cleared in '06
- 98 bid (760 million value) in '06
- 300-350 active environmental clearances underway
- 30-100 maintenance projects



How?

Accomplishments and Goals

- Customer focus
- Partnering/Agreements
- Standardizing processes (documents, reporting, consultants, etc)
- Exploring efficiencies/QC/consistency
- Developing policies and procedures
- Technology applications

Accomplishments and Goals

- Tracking and measurements
- Scheduling/flowcharting
- Policy level analysis and recommendations
- Education/training
- Research
- Awards and recognitions



When?

When do we get there?

... its an ongoing, continuous process.

Environmental Planning Group

The (multimodal) path we are on...

- Has a long term vision to “be the best.”
- Is focused on continued increased quality, improved efficiency, and enhanced customer service.
- Considers where we have been, what we have done, and what lies ahead - for us and for our customers.

Questions...?

